

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 FREETO 01283 042133Z

65

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSC-01

EB-07 IO-13 AID-05 /081 W

----- 056827

R 031320Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3036

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 1283

MONROVIA ALSO FOR USAID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SL

SUBJECT: GOSL CABINET CHANGES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE MAY 1 ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING CHANGES
IN CABINET AND GOSL STRUCTURE:

A. MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING MERGED
INTO MINISTRY OF FINANCE;

B. MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
MERGED INTO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION;

C. N.A.P. BUCK, FORMERLY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND
ECONOMIC PLANNING, NAMED MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING VICE A.B.M. KAMARA;

D. A.B.M. KAMARA, FORMERLY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING, NAMED MINISTER OF WORKDS VICE L.A.M. BREWAH;

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 FREETO 01283 042133Z

E. BREWAH AND S.A.T. KOROMA, FORMERLY MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND RURAL DEV)90.3,5 (SINCE SWITCH TWO WEEKS BEFORE IN WHICH HE EXCHANGED POSITIONS WITH S.A. FOFANAH WHO NOW MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES), DROPPED FROM CABINET, END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. SHIFT IS THIRD IN SERIES OF SMALL SHUFFLES OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, FOLLOWING S.A.T. KOROMA-S.A. FOFANAH SWITCH AND TRANSFER OF S.A. KEBE FROM DEPUTY MIN AGRICULTURE TO DEP MIN TRADE AND INDUSTRY (WHICH HAS OCCURED BUT TO BEST OF EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED). RUMORS PERSIST OF NUMEROUS ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO COME. MAY 1 CHANGE HAS SET OFF AVALANCHE OF COMMENTS AMONG POLITICALLY KNOWLEDGABLE SIERRA LEONEANS, INCLUDING CABINET MEMBERS, THAT IT PRESAGES EARLY PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (NOW THAT PRESIDENT SAFELY RE-INAUGURATED FOR NEW FIVE YEAR TERM) AND PROBABLE ADDITIONAL REDUCGIONS IN SIZE OF CABINET.

3. MAIN REASONS FOR MAY 1 CHANGES APPEAR TO BE:

A. TO REMOVE S.A.T. KOROMA FROM CABINET WHICH PRESIDENT KNOWN TO HAVE WANTED TO DO FOR HIS EGREGIOUS CORRUPTION,

B. MOVE BUCK FROM DEVELOPMENT WHERE HE HAS PERFORMED WITH SINGULAR LACK OF DISTINCTION AND PLACE MINISTRY UNDER VICE PRESIDENT KOROMA WHO CONCURRENTLY MINISTER OF FINANCE,

C. DROP BREWAH WHOSE PERFORMANCE LACKLUSTER, IN PART DUE ILLNESS, AND WHO ALSO KNOWN HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN SIGNIFICANT CORRUPTION, AND

D. BEGIN PROCESS OF REDUCING SIZE OF OVERBLOWN GOSL CABINET. PRIOR RECENT SACKINGS AND CHANGES, 45 OF PRESENT 96 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT HELD RANK OF MINISTER, DEPUTY MINISTER OF MINISTER OF STATE, NOT INCLUDING PRESIDENT WHO CONCURRENTLY MINISTER OF DEFENSE. MAY 1 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 FREETO 01283 042133Z

CHANGES ALSO MAKE SENSE OF S.A. FOFANAH-S.A.T. KOROMA SWITCH OF TWO WEEKS AGO WHICH NOW OBVIOUSLY WAS PRELUDE TO KOROMA SACKING BY REMOVING MINISTRY FROM UNDER NEATH HIM, OBVIOUSLY AN IMPOSSIBILITY WHEN HE HELD KEY AGRICULTURE PORTFOLOIO.

4. ANALYSIS OF MAY 1 SACKINGS SUGGESTS PRESIDENT ALSO KEPT TRIBAL CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND IN REACHING DECISION,

SINCE TWO LOSERS ARE NEATLY DIVIDED INTO ONE TEMNE (KOROMA)
AND ONE MENDE (BREWAH).
SAMUELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, REORGANIZATIONS, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976FREETO01283
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760171-1070
From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760599/aaaadgmb.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOSL CABINET CHANGES BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006